

**EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT AND  
REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

***Action Background***

1. This action is responsive to the Request for Continued Examination and amendment filed on 10/30/2009.
2. Applicant has amended claims 1, 9, 12 and 25. Claims 2-8, 10, 13, 15-24 and 27 were previously canceled. An examiner's amendment to claims 1, 9 and 12 appear below.
3. Claims 1, 9, 11, 12, 14, 25, 26 and 28-38 are pending in the case; claims 1, 9, 12 and 25 are independent claims.
4. A request for continued examination filed under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after a final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office Action (dated 7/7/2009) has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114.
5. The examiner's rejection of claims 1, 9, 11, 12, 14, 25, 26 and 28-38, rejected under 35 USC 112 and under 35 USC 103(a), as described in the office action dated 7/7/2009, is withdrawn in view of the amendment to the claims.

***Examiner's Amendment***

6. An examiner's amendment to claims 1, 9 and 12 appear below. Text added by the examiner is shown underlined; text deleted by the examiner is shown struck out. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Oliver Strimpel on November 9, 2009. The amendment is made to clarify that the systems are hardware and thus is statutory under 35 USC 101.

7. Rewrite claims 1, 9 and 12 as follows:

1. A computer implemented authoring system for authoring a presentation of temporal media and nontemporal media, comprising:

a graphical user interface for enabling a user to interactively author the presentation using a timeline comprising one or more tracks for temporal media and nontemporal media;

data defining a spatial relationship among the temporal and nontemporal media in a display area, wherein the data indicates, for each track and for the nontemporal media a portion of the display area in which media from the track will be displayed and a portion of the display area in which the nontemporal media will be displayed;

wherein the graphical user interface also enables the user to modify the data defining the spatial relationship by presenting to the user, for each portion of the display area, the tracks available for the portion of the display area, and receiving from the user an indication of a track selected by the user for each portion of the display area; and

a viewer having access to the timeline and the data defining the spatial relationship, and having an output providing display information for displaying the temporal media and the nontemporal media combined according to the

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timeline and the spatial relationship, for each of one or more specified times along the timeline.

9. A computer implemented system for authoring a presentation of temporal media and nontemporal media, comprising:

a timeline comprising one or more tracks enabling a user to specify a sequence of temporal media and enabling a user to specify nontemporal media in a temporal relationship with the temporal media;

data defining a spatial relationship among the temporal and nontemporal media in a display area, wherein the data indicates, for each track and for the nontemporal media, a portion of the display area in which temporal media from the track will be displayed and a portion of the display area in which the nontemporal media will be displayed;

an interface enabling the user to modify the data defining the spatial relationship by presenting to the user, for each portion of the display area, the tracks available for the portion of the display area, and receiving from the user an indication of a track selected by the user for each portion of the display area; and

an output through which the temporal media are presented, and in which at least the nontemporal media are presented with the defined spatial relationship with the temporal media and with a temporal relationship with the temporal media as specified by the timeline, for each of one or more specified times along the timeline.

12. A computer implemented system for authoring a presentation of temporal media and nontemporal media, comprising:

a timeline comprising one or more tracks enabling a user to specify a sequence of temporal media and enabling a user to specify nontemporal media in a temporal relationship with the temporal media;

data defining a spatial relationship among the temporal media and the nontemporal media in a display area including an indication for each track in the timeline and for the nontemporal media a portion of the display area in which temporal media from the track will be displayed and a portion of the display area in which nontemporal media will be displayed;

an interface enabling the user to modify the data defining the spatial relationship by wherein the graphical user interface also enables the user to modify the

data defining the spatial relationship by presenting to the user, for each portion of the display area, the tracks available for the portion of the display area, and receiving from the user an indication of a track selected by the user for each portion of the display area; and

one or more outputs through which the temporal media are presented, and in which at least the nontemporal media are presented in the specified spatial relationship with the temporal media and with the temporal relationship with the temporal media as specified by the timeline, for each of one or more specified times along the timeline.

#### ***Reasons for Allowance***

8. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

**Regarding independent claims 1, 9, 12 and 25,** the prior art of record neither anticipates nor suggests to a person of ordinary skill, at the time the invention was made, the claimed system or computer program product for an authoring system for authoring a presentation of temporal media and nontemporal media, comprising: a graphical user interface for enabling a user to interactively author the presentation using a timeline comprising one or more tracks for temporal media and nontemporal media; data defining a spatial relationship among the temporal and nontemporal media in a display area, wherein the data indicates, for each track and for the nontemporal media a portion of the display area in which media from the track will be displayed and a portion of the display area in which the nontemporal media will be displayed; wherein the graphical user interface also enables the user to modify the data defining the spatial relationship by presenting to the user, for each portion of the display area, the tracks available for the portion of the display area, and

receiving from the user an indication of a track selected by the user for each portion of the display area; and a viewer having access to the timeline and the data defining the spatial relationship, and having an output providing display information for displaying the temporal media and the nontemporal media combined according to the timeline and the spatial relationship, for each of one or more specified times along the timeline.

9. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."
10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gregory J. Vaughn whose telephone number is (571) 272-4131. The examiner can normally be reached Monday to Friday from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Stephen S. Hong can be reached at (571) 272-4124. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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